

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, including more choices in channels, programming, broadband and new television technologies, and most importantly, a national competitor to local cable monopolies. By charging a single, competitive, national price to all users of similar services, the combined satellite company will finally provide viable competition to cable companies that are rapidly raising prices in their non-competitive world. Further, rural customers will be able to receive satellite transmissions at a fair and competitive, national rate.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.